

WHITE CHRISTMAS MAY BE REALIZED, BUT WOULDN'T PLEASE ALL

Only Ten More Shopping Days Before the Great Holiday Is Here—Charities Hard Worked

ANGELS' HANDS FULL

Including today, there are only ten more shopping days before Christmas.

There are a dozen or so perplexing alternatives that always come up at this season. They are, for instance:

Whether to wish for a "white" Christmas or for a "green" Christmas. The latter, as now seems possible, is very cheerful and all very good for those who have warm houses and plenty of coal. But nevertheless, the obvious thing to do is to wish for a snowy Christmas. And then make up for it by giving the poor fellow warm clothing. If this is a desirable thing to do, then wish for a warm, green Christmas.

Then there is the perplexing alternative, to decide whether to buy a toy or an electrical toy, with switches and all sorts of contrivances, or a cheap make-believe contrivance that has to be coaxed along by hand or with a spring that breaks on December 28. But even some boys lose interest in complex toys with amazing facility, and others never lose their interest in the plainest kind of plain toys.

The riddle is solved by giving to the unimaginative boy the complex toy, and to the imaginative one the simple one. It will be more fun for the unimaginative boy to break the complex contrivance, and the complex contrivance would not be so much of a waste if it were given to a boy who would play with it until it was no longer a toy.

A New York newspaper has compiled a list of the 100 worst cases of suffering to that city. The various charitable organizations cooperate in the list. The names from the diary of a man in the underworld. They are all the cases of very poor people and in every instance there is just one medicine needed—money. It might be interesting if a list were compiled of the 100 worst sufferers in a great city exclusive of those who need money for the necessities of life. Many have to go through the streets in rags, and the clothes and while having the bare necessities are troubled about many things.

Sherlock Holmes once unraveled a mystery of an apparent very well-to-do man who spent several hours every day in the disguise of a beggar, reading a harvest of pennies in his little tin cup. There are a few well-to-do folks who would like to try that way of earning out now and then if it could be managed.

The Philadelphia Housing Commission is sending out "Christmas cards." "Send," asks the commission on these gifts to the owners of property in the city, "to the tenants of your buildings. You could embody more of the Christmas spirit of thoughtfulness for others than a personal visit to such properties, talks with your tenants and the correction of any defects of an unsafe or insanitary character as you discover."

Probably some day the cities will tear down these old blocks and build decent places. For the time being it is sure to arrive, if only one is patient.

Some white boy is going to get his head punched. He told Lily, a little colored girl, that there were no Santa Claus for colored children. So Lily came to George Williams, the colored detective who provided a Christmas for 447 poor children, both white and black, last year, and is planning to invite Santa Claus this year and he'll be there, children, he'll be there!

Lily's letter to Williams continued: "I got a doll last year from him, but the doll is most worn out now so if you please kin I have another one for me. I'll love it. Yours truly, Lily."

Williams has asked for more contributions to help him out.

Mr. M. W. Ketchum, 324 Frankford avenue, who has done more for unfortunate families in Kensington than any one else, says conditions are no better this December in Kensington than they were last December. Therefore something will have to be done about it; and Mrs. Ketchum, though laboring under the great weight of being known as the "Angel of Kensington," is eager to do it, but cannot do it all alone.

The difficulty about angels is that people have a way of letting them do all the work. But nobody wants to be an angel, or to have an angel, least of all Mrs. Ketchum or Kensington. What they both want is not sentimental pity or angelic ministrations, but simply some kind, definite, though temporary, relief, to help out in certain difficult problems which are always to be found in sections over-crowded and industrious.

Christmas is a better time than any other to start to give thought to such problems, for they should be handled with a happy and hopeful spirit and not with a heavy face and a despairing heart.

That detective who gives Christmas to the Benning street children is not alone in the Bureau of Police in this work. Two West Philadelphia sergeants will have trees and presents for children in their neighborhoods at their homes. They are William Scull, of 5 South 44th street, and Frank S. Hart, of 1800 North 6th street.

The Salvation Army will give away 500 Christmas baskets, with food for 500 persons in all. Everybody loves the pudding and the humming of the big bass drum and everybody secretly loves the old Army, although openly making fun of it.

THOURON BROTHERS BURIED

One Funeral Held in Rome and the Other Here at About the Same Time

While Henry J. Thouron, a distinguished artist and a native of Philadelphia, was being buried in Rome, his brother, Martin, was being interred in the Cathedral Cemetery here. Martin Thouron was wealthy and at one time was a prominent figure on the Philadelphia Stock Exchange. He died in Baltimore Friday.

MISSING BOY'S FATHER SEEKS LEAD IN 'LITTLE RED HOUSE' OF DREAM

Luke Meekins wanders through streets of Tenderloin in Search of Place Where He "Saw" Son

Luke Meekins walked the slushy streets of the Tenderloin today, led by a dream. It was to find a "red house," the father of the kidnapped boy, seven-year-old Richard Meekins, that even the police began to take stock in it, and followed the man about looking for "red houses" with the green blinds that he had seen last night.

"I dreamed that I was walking at 9th and Arch and I saw a man, called back to him, 'Don't worry; stay there till I come.' But this being a dream, you see, I did not go into the house, and I would not have been able to find it."

"It was the most realistic dream I ever had. As soon as I had had breakfast this morning at my home, 249 South 10th street, I looked my wife good-bye and told her I would be home till I found Richard. This light-haired woman in the dream was about 25—five years a good many light-haired women on here, but none of them was just like the one that had Richard's hand. She seemed like a kindly sort of woman, while all I've seen up here look hard."

The police do not want Mr. Meekins to get out of their sight because he was in a great excited condition, and it was feared he might get into some sort of trouble, possibly try to enter a house where he thought his son might be, and get into a fight with the police. The police are not interested in attaching any importance to his dream, but it is usually given to dreams.

Richard Meekins prepared today to have the picture of the missing boy printed on red cards. The cards will be mailed to persons all over the country. Names will be selected from out-of-town directories. Those who receive the cards will be asked to return them to the police. The friends in turn will be asked to forward them to their friends. The idea is to inaugurate an endowment search for the boy, who has been missing since he was 11 months old.

Mrs. Meekins, mother of the boy, was dressed with Lieutenant Marple, of the 65th street and Woodland avenue station. She went over to see the boy in the street with him. She tearfully told Lieutenant Marple that it was useless to continue the search any longer for her boy. She said she felt her boy was dead. The boy's picture shown in the "movies." Several moving-picture companies have volunteered to show the picture of Richard Meekins nightly on the screen to audiences.

The Woodland Avenue Business Men's Association will hold a mass-meeting in Kensington Hall, 717 North 10th street, next Thursday night, to discuss the Meekins case.

John E. Pedlow, president of the association, is in favor of offering a reward for information leading to the conviction of the abductors of the Meekins boy.

West Philadelphia merchants today suggested that the city should issue a reward for the recovery of the boy.

KISSING KETCHUMS DRAW COURT'S FIRE; CASE ENDS

"My Soul Rebels Against Such Testimony," Says Judge

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—The trial of Mrs. Ann Brown Ketchum and for a second time on Everett P. Ketchum, lawyer and Yale graduate, came to an end before Superior Court Justice Blonchard yesterday after Justice Blonchard and commented sharply on the nature of the evidence and had expressed regret that probably the last case he will try before his retirement on December 31 should have been an action of that kind.

The conclusion of the trial was hastened by the following remark of Justice Blonchard: "I don't want to sit here hour after hour and listen to such testimony. It is abhorrent to me and my soul rebels against the disclosures in this action." He granted the attorneys two weeks to file briefs.



MRS. WILLIAM H. WILSON

HOME COMES FIRST WITH WIFE OF NEXT DIRECTOR OF SAFETY

Mrs. William H. Wilson Also Believes in Keeping in Touch With Events Through the Newspapers

IS A CHARMING HOSTESS

At the Woman's Clubs

"The House Beautiful" will be discussed today at the New Century Club, Chester, by William Price. The Current Events class will meet at 2:15 with Mrs. William D. Randle as chairman. The Committee on Home Economics is organizing a cooking class. Mrs. H. G. Innis is in charge of the enrollment.

The Philadelphia Section, Council of Jewish women will meet in Mercantile Hall today at 2:30 o'clock. Judge MacNeill will describe the operation of the Juvenile Court. Vocal solos will be given by Miss Marie Leopold, and Mrs. Harry Blasinger will read "Everyday Life."

The council is arranging a children's entertainment for December 2, the proceeds of which are to be used for philanthropic purposes.

Members of the Plastic Club are requested to bring along rare china to the meeting at 8 o'clock. Miss Jane Campbell will give a talk on "Old China." It is Current Events day also, with Mrs. Mary Roberts Ball as chairman.

The Philadelphia Music Club will give an afternoon concert of Italian music next Tuesday at 3 o'clock at the Aldine. The program, arranged by Miss Dorothy Marshall, will consist of songs by Mrs. Wanders Greenwald, piano solos by Miss Elizabeth Gest and violin selections by Miss Camille Plassehaert.

In the Curtis Auditorium at 3 o'clock today a meeting of the Philadelphia Medical Club will be held. Dr. M. V. O'Shea, of the University of Wisconsin, will deliver a lecture, "The Trend of the 'Tonsils.'" Those interested in the development of young people are invited to attend the lecture.

Tomorrow afternoon the class of Immigration of the Woman's Club of Ardmore will meet in the library room. Mrs. Andrew Macdonald, chairman, has arranged the program. Mrs. H. A. Arnold is leader. The Friday afternoon meeting will be held at 3 o'clock in the library room. There will be a little play, "The Little Girl From Philadelphia," music and recitations. Mrs. W. H. Sherwood, chairman. All children of club members, large or small, cordially invited.

The Executive Committee of the Fox Chase Monday Club will entertain members and friends at a social afternoon on Friday of this week.

The regular meeting of the Hadron Township Suffrage party was held at Coffee House in Wayne last Thursday. Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: Mrs. E. G. Gentry, president; Dr. David's, leader; Mrs. Charles Stanley Harvey, also of St. David's, first vice leader; Mrs. Oswald Chew, of Radnor, second vice leader; and Mrs. S. C. West, of Wayne, treasurer.

The stated meeting of the Saturday Club of Wayne will be held today at 3 o'clock. Mrs. A. H. Elliott, chairman. For the Social and Industrial Section the speaker will be Miss Anne Rhoades. There will be a sale of dolls and toys for the benefit of the Neighborhood League. Any contributions for the poor and needy of the neighborhood of charity, toys, clothing and so on should be sent to the Saturday Club house.

The Committee on Ward Affairs will hold its important meeting at the Club this morning at half-past 10 o'clock, with Miss Clara Middleton as chairman.

The Civic Club will hold two meetings this evening, December 21. The Committee on Municipal Affairs will meet at 8 o'clock, and at 11 o'clock the Children's Welfare Committee will meet.

An important meeting of the Philadelphia Red Cross will be held at 8 o'clock at the Philadelphia Club. The program will be in charge of Mrs. James Francis Cooke and Mrs. E. H. Smith will be hostess.

This afternoon, at three o'clock, Joseph Pennell will talk on "Fictitious Possibilities of Work." Lambert J. Jones, of the Pennsylvania State University, will be the speaker. The program will be in charge of Mrs. James Francis Cooke and Mrs. E. H. Smith will be hostess.

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The surviving members of the Corn Exchange Regiment, 18th Pennsylvania Volunteers, were the guests of honor at the annual dinner of the Corn Exchange National Club, held at the Downtown Club last night. Charles S. Calvert, president of the bank, acted as toastmaster. An elaborate musical program was provided, and addresses were made by Ex-Governor Edward C. Biddle, of New Jersey; Henry G. Hawn and Edward J. Cattell, City Statisticians.

REPUBLICAN POLITICAL SOCIETY 5-PRICE PARLOR SUITES re-constructed and re-furnished. 12-15-18. \$15, \$20, \$25. Write or phone 515 Chestnut St. Philadelphia. Estimates free. From Philadelphia Company, 515 & Walnut, Entrance 304 S. 5th.

Light shines in her eyes. And the pride, which she unconsciously confesses in a hundred and one different dances in her blue eyes to a peculiar reflection of her tones, is born of the knowledge that she is known by the name of her husband's name. She has been recognized by men of affairs and rewarded by the post of honor she occupies at the home at the end of the list of Mrs. Wilson's daily occupations is quite reversing the real order of things, however. For if there is one thing above another she admits as a hobby it is her home.

Not the narrow "A woman's place is in the home" point of view, mind you; far from it. For she is hearing in accord with the spirit of the suffrage movement. "I wouldn't care to vote myself," she said, "if women are enfranchised, but I do believe those women who desire a voice in the government should have it."

Originally it was a coffee room. I believe in a woman keeping in touch with the current events as presented through the columns of the press, and in making it a point to read good literature, books and magazine articles by the best writers of fact and fiction. And I like to get away in some book where I can concentrate. As proof that she had just such a book in which to retire, she led the way to the long library, a subterranean room, evolved from a plain, everyday cellar.

Attractive library. Out through the kitchen and down some snowy white steps, a trip such as children take many times in wild flights of imagination as they pore over stories in "Arabian Nights," and a long, brightly lighted, perfectly appointed room, with walls lined with well-filled white book-cases, and floors covered with oriental rugs, presents itself to the astonished eyes.

"Mr. Wilson and I figured this out ourselves," this young nation said happily. "Originally it was a coffee room. With two months' work, which included many things, such as laying the hardwood floor, covering the walls with mahogany paneling and building in the long window seats, we at last had a place that might be used as a reading room or transformed in a few minutes to a dancing parlor. And we both enjoy dancing greatly."

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Mrs. Wilson was graduated from the Philadelphia High School for Girls. She has been married 12 years and has one child, Dorothy.

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THE UBIQUITOUS PNEUMOCOCCUS AND SOME OF ITS MANY "STUNTS"

By WILLIAM BRADY, M. D.

HERE is a title that may be fairly dubbed a "jaw breaker," but with a little practice you can say it right off. Just like a doctor: thus, the on-bick-wit-us Numo-cock-us-or in words of one syllable, The All-round "Cold" Microbe.

The pneumococcus, commonly known as the pneumococcus germ, is an all-around pest in a double sense. Virtually every one harbors a growth of pneumococci in the mouth cavity all the year round, at least one out of every five individuals being "carriers" of real, businesslike, virulent specimens capable of starting something most any time. The other four individuals seem to have "tamed" their pneumococci somewhat, so that the germs are comparatively harmless or incapable of inflicting much damage on the host or his associates.

Not only is the pneumococcus everywhere looking for an opening, but he is a versatile "bug" into the bargain. On short notice he can prepare himself to fill nearly any role for which a self-repeating microbe may be cast. For instance, while his favorite tragedy is pneumonia, he is equally at home in such popular productions as "The Spittle-Sneeze," "The Sore Throat Girl," "Grimm's Contagion," "Essential Elixir," "Ear-ache" or even "Marty Ann's Appendix."

Indeed Mr. Pneumococcus at his best will search any man's heart and seriously impair his fighting capacity, and once in a while actually reaches his joints and lays him up with nice, warm, fat-tended rheumatism.

All of which is not new. Our ancestors for generations have recognized the work of Mr. Pneumococcus, though he had not then been discovered, and called the whole repertory bad "colds," settled here and there in the "weak" places. The principal fault with that easy-going way of disposing of the subject was the primary causative factor—Mr. Pneumococcus—was lost in the shuffle, and everybody kept passing him around in the most selfish way, until the common "cold" ultimately became indigenous in every household. In short, the pneumococcus became exactly what we have called him in our title—ubiquitous.

Owing to this ubiquity the wisdom of isolating "colds" is questioned by many physicians. It seems to be the general opinion that "cold" carriers are so numerous that isolation of occasional victims here and there would be love's labor lost. Even the treatment of known carriers with a view to freeing their mouths of virulent pneumococci would be a job so stupendous at the present time as to stagger the most enthusiastic health officers. Let the "cold" carriers alone, they say; let them go on carrying "colds" to Newcastle.

But dwellers in Newcastle may meanwhile take certain precautions for their neighbors. They may have a "clean-up" day once in a while; a day when extra efforts shall be made to clean up the month, with the aid of the dentist and other distributors. An absolutely clean mouth will certainly go a long way toward emphasizing the out in the ubiquity of Mr. Pneumococcus.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What would cause me to have fever every afternoon and evening? asks a reader.

Answer—Incipient tuberculosis, obscure focus of suppuration of low-grade inflammation somewhere in the body, possibly malarial infection. Better find out by having a careful examination.

CONTINUATION CLASSES TO COST CITY \$270,510

Board of Education Gets Estimate of Expense of Teaching Children Who Work

The approximate cost of a teaching staff for the continuation classes in the Philadelphia schools will be \$270,510, according to estimates submitted at the meeting of the Board of Education this afternoon by the Department of Superintendence. The estimate does not include cost of buildings or of classrooms.

The estimates are based upon a probable enrollment of 15,000 children. At the time of taking the school census in June there were approximately 15,722 children under 16 years of age in employment in the city. Many of these children will be 16 by the first of the year.

It is understood that the establishment of the classes will be begun on January 1 and will proceed as rapidly as possible throughout the year until all children contemplated in the school labor act have been placed in the following teachers, named by the Committee on Elementary Schools, was confirmed: Helen M. Getz, Cecelia Kenny, Bertha E. Zueker, Laura Norwood, Mrs. L. Terry, Anna Scowald, Fay J. Banks, Blanche Kent, Gertrude C. Colver, Margaret McCausland, Henrietta Neuman, Cordeia Rogers, Katharine M. Hagerly, Florence Orr, Catherine May Tencher, Violet K. McArthur, Violet Q. Myers, Edith E. Smith, Marjorie H. Wright, Helen M. Frazier, Helen M. Hill, Robert S. Miller, Elizabeth M. O'Brien, Matvina G. Matt, Alice D. Hughes, Margaret W. Costley, Thomas L. Colten, James B. Larned.

Hand work—Elsie M. Gibbs.

WASHINGTON DEAD 116 YEARS

This Is Anniversary of Passing of Father of This Country

This is the 116th anniversary of George Washington's death. It is also the anniversary of the death of Napoleon Bonaparte. Washington died after an illness of only four days. He caught cold while riding.

In those days news didn't travel as fast from Mr. Vernon to Philadelphia as it travels several times around the world nowadays, and it wasn't until Washington was dead four days that the people in this city heard of it.

Ladies' Hand Bags

Leather, Silk, Velvet priced \$3 to \$20

Curry 1112 Chestnut St.

HENRY F. MILLER PIANOS

EST. 1863

Thomas H. Eckert says "My experience with your instruments has been very satisfactory and it gives me pleasure to testify to their many excellent qualities."

THESE are three instruments of the superb Henry F. Miller tone and character, that you should hear before making your Christmas investment.

The Lyric Grand has the resonance of tone that approaches the larger grands, and in a size (5 ft. 6 in.) suitable to the home. \$750.

The Henry F. Miller Playerforte is the highest example of Player-construction and embodies many special features not found in other players. \$850.

The Lyric Upright. Probably the most popular model on the market today, embodying the Henry F. Miller excellence at a moderate price. \$450.

The Burton Player (contains Miller player action) \$650

The York Player \$550

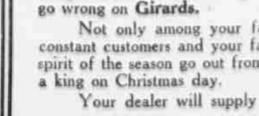
Henry F. Miller & Sons Piano Company 1105 Chestnut St. Factory, Wakefield, Mass. Moderate terms. Discount for cash.

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Read the Ads

A royal gift Girards!



Made from the kingliest Havana leaf that grows on Cuban soil. Blended by an improved method peculiar to itself. Melodized by age alone. There's your royal gift to loyal friends!

Send each smoker among them a box of Christmas Girards. They are the best-known cigars in the United States. You can't go wrong on Girards.

Not only among your family